

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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R 151124Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5785

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 206

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, DR

SUBJ: OPERATION SHOESTRING: VISIT OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAMS TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

1. VISIT OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY SWIMMING AND DIVING

TEAMS TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC DECEMBER 14-23 WAS UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS,  
DEMONSTRATING HOW COOPERATION VARIOUS DOMINICAN AND AMERICAN  
ENTITIES CAN RESULT IN ENEXPENSIVE PROGRAM ADVANCING SPORTS  
PROFICIENCY AND GENERATING GOOD WILL.

2. PROJECT INVOLVED VISIT OF 28 SWIMMERS WHO PAID OWN TRANSPORTATION  
COSTS (MANY DRIVING FROM MICHIGAN TO MIAMI TO SAVE MONEY) AND  
TWO COACHES WHOSE TRANSPORTATION PAID BY MICHIGAN PARTNERS. HOME  
HOSPITALITY PROVIDED BY DOMINICAN AND AMERICAN PARENTS OF  
LOCAL SWIM TEAM MEMBERS.

3. TEAM GAVE TOTAL 5 EXHIBITIONS IN THREE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS TO  
SOME 200 MEMBERS SWIM TEAMS AFFILIATED WITH DOMINICAN NATIONAL  
SWIMMING FEDERAL NON; COACHING OF INDIVIDUALS FOLLOWED EXHIBITIONS.  
SWIMMING COACH DICK FETTERS AND DIVING COACH JOHN NARCY  
OFFERED 4 CLINICS FOR DOMINICAN COACHES AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
INSTRUCTORS. ALL ACTIVITIES RECEIVED EXTENSIVE PRESS  
COVERAGE.

4. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDED: LUNCHEON OFFERED BY AMERICAN  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY TOURS AND TYPICAL "FIESTA" PROVIDED  
BY DOMINICAN  
TOURIST BUREAU, TICKETS TO PRO BASEBALL GAME  
DONATED BY SECRETARIAT OF SPORTS, OVERNIGHT STAY LA ROMANA  
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RESORT HOSTED BY GULF AND WESTERN CORPORATION, AND BARBECUE AT

EMBASSY RESIDENCE.

5. PRAISE DUE ALL PARTICIPATING ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS  
BUT ESPECIALLY TO MICHIGAN TEAM AND COACHES. PERSONALLY AND  
PROFESSIONALLY THEY LEFT HIGHLY-POSITIVE IMPRESSION OF  
AMERICAN YOUTH ON DOMINICANS AND AMERICANS ALIKE.

6. INTEREST IN SIMILAR SPORTS EXCHANGE PROJECTS HIGH AND WE  
FORESEE INCREASED ACTIVITIES THIS AREA.

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## Message Attributes

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